

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMARKS ON THE PASSING OF WALTER SHORENSTEIN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Walter Shorenstein. When word of Walter's passing came to the Capitol, sadness was felt throughout this building. Not only did we lose a great American, but for many of us in public office, we lost a great friend. We shared stories of Walters's life and his legacy.

Before I left Washington last Friday, I received messages from all over; from Members of Congress and from people around the country. On my way home to California this weekend, I went to four states, and in every state I heard stories about Walter. I hope it is a comfort to the Shorenstein family that so many people share their loss and respect their father.

The outpouring of respect and affection for Walter Shorenstein brings to mind a passage from Ecclesiasticus, "Now let us praise great men the heroes of our nation. They led the people by their counsel and their knowledge of the laws. From their font of wisdom, they gave instruction. These are godly men whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten. Their wealth is their descendants and their inheritance is their children's children. Their bodies are buried in peace and their names will live forever. The people will tell of their wisdom and the congregation will continue to sing their praise."

I want to praise Walter as a patriot and a patriarch. He loved America and served his country his entire life. In the Air Force in World War II, as a civic leader, and as a philanthropist, he worked to strengthen our Nation.

Walter knew that our democracy depended on people having a chance to get ahead. In that respect he was a democrat with the small "d." He practiced this in his professional life and advocated this as public policy, and in that respect he was a Democrat with a capital "D." It was also part of his family tradition. He always smiled with pride talking about Hyman Shorenstein, his uncle, and the Democratic boss of Brooklyn for over 30 years. He even told me on a number of occasions that to cross Hyman, you might be "Shorensteined." In other words, it was a verb.

Walter understood how essential freedom of the press was to our democracy. With that in mind he founded the Joan Shorenstein Center for Press, Politics and Public Policy. He brought together great minds on the subject and honored Joan's understanding on the relationship between the press, at which she excelled, and power, which she covered.

Walter understood power and was an advisor and friend to Democratic Presidents Lyndon Johnson, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton. He was also a friend and advisor to many who aspired to be president, too numerous to mention.

He had a special relationship with Secretary Hillary Clinton, and Ted Kennedy was family. His leadership was acknowledged and praised by President Barack Obama.

Much has been said about how generous Walter was financially to political causes. He was also a great intellectual resource and mentor. He was politically astute and his views were respected.

My colleagues in Congress, such as Congressman GEORGE MILLER, Congresswoman ANN ESHOO, Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI often spoke of how prepared you had to be when you went to visit Walter. You always left with words of wisdom, and assigned reading.

Walter wasn't always easy. He was very competitive. We always knew that on our visits and our phone calls, we'd be challenged. And the most annoying part was that Walter was always right.

Walter was successful because he was smart and he was always ready for the task ahead. When we would ask him what he thought about bringing the Democratic Convention to San Francisco, my running for Congress or for leadership, Walter would say, "Just do it." Walter coined that phrase well before Nike did. And when Walter said "just do it," he would also say, "I will help make it happen." You knew you would succeed with Walter at your side.

Walter was a patriarch to the community, but what mattered most to him was to be a devoted father to his family. Today as we pay tribute to Walter, we must also remember Phyllis and her quiet, dignified, and strong demeanor. If anyone wanted to see the powerful Walter Shorenstein melt, they just needed to see him around Phyllis.

Everyone knows how much he loved his children: Joan, Carole, and Doug, and he glowed with pride in their success. They honored their parent's traditions, which included making their own extraordinary mark on the world. And he loved his grandchildren Sarah, Wally, Grace, Brandon, Sandra and Danielle. What a great legacy you all are to Phyllis and Walter.

Walter Shorenstein died as he had lived: surrounded by his family and loved ones, in charge of his own situation, and ready. Now that he has passed, we take comfort that his spirit is with Joan and Phyllis.

Patriot, patriarch, especially family man and friend, today Walter Shorenstein is mourned and praised across the country. But he is especially mourned in the community of San Francisco, where we knew him the best and loved him the most. He had a wonderful life. May he rest in peace.

HONORING MR. LEONARD M. SCIOLINO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the work of Leonard

M. Sciolino upon his retirement as Director of the City of Buffalo's Division of Parking Enforcement.

A very good friend, Lenny has had a long and successful career in public service. Lenny started as a staffer at the Buffalo Common Council, serving under then-Council President George K. Arthur. It was in this position that I came to know Lenny well, as he served as a council staffer during my full tenure as South District Councilmember, from 1988 to 1993.

Following the successful election of Tony Masiello as Mayor of Buffalo, Lenny was appointed to his current position, where he has been the architect of many technological advances.

As a member of the International Parking Institute Lenny has participated in numerous Central Business District Surveys and Parking Studies citywide and nationally. In addition, Lenny pursued and implemented numerous technological changes in his department, including Optical Imaging and Scanning and solar-powered pay stations with radio frequency.

Active in the Democratic Party for many years, Lenny has served as a committeeman, a city Zone Chairman, and has involved himself in dozens of local campaigns.

Lenny has many things for which he is very proud, but his proudest accomplishments are those involving his family. Lenny and his wife Linda are the parents of sons Lenny III, and Kevin, and are proud grandparents of four grandchildren, Lenny IV, Milena and Francesca, and Jack.

Madam Speaker, I hope that you and our colleagues in the House will join me in wishing Godspeed to Len Sciolino upon the occasion of his retirement, and wishing Len, Linda and the entire Sciolino family the best of health in the months and years to come.

HONORING RICK ALGERT UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Rick Algert on the occasion of his retirement after 20 years as Harbor Director and Harbormaster for the City of Morro Bay. He is truly an asset to our local community and his excellent work is reflected in Morro Bay's Harbor.

Mr. Algert has spent much of his life on the coast and in the City of Morro Bay. He grew up in Fallbrook, California and came to Morro Bay from the City of Eureka. Prior to that he lived in the City of Santa Barbara, where he attended the University of California and received a degree in Business. Rick and his wife Nancy have three children; Bridgett, Paul and Jamie.

Mr. Algert is deeply familiar with the workings of Morro Bay. He has been involved with

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